

REMARKS

The claims have been amended to remove multiple dependencies. Claims 1-15 remain pending after amendment.

Specification Amendments

By this amendment, pages 72, 76, 78, 80, 81, 82, 84, 86, and 91 are amended as follows:

Page 72: The description of the paragraph beginning from the term “Optical” line 18 on page 72 relates to obtaining the optical element (a’2) by laminating the long sheet of optically anisotropic member (A2) obtained in Preparation Example 3 and the optical element (b’2) obtained in the preceding paragraph of Example 2. The sentence in lines 21 to 24 starting from the term “The angle” is obviously refers to the angle between the axes of the optically anisotropic member (A2) and optical element (b’2) which is laminated with A2. It is thus obvious that the term (a’2) in line 22 should be (b’2) instead of (a’2). This amendment is also recognized to be correct by taking into consideration the disclosures of Preparation Example 3, Preparation Example 4 and Preparation Example IV which are referred to in Example 2.

Page 76:: The paragraph beginning from the term “Optically” in line 9 on page 76 refers to the refractive indices of the optically anisotropic member (B3). The object of Preparation Example 6 is to prepare a film of optically anisotropic member (B3) satisfying $n_{zB} > n_{yB}$ and an absolute value of the difference between n_{xB} and n_{zB} of 0.002 or smaller (page 75, lines 15 to 17). It is therefore obvious that n_{xA} , n_{yA} and n_{zA} in lines 9 to 10 should be n_{xB} , n_{yB} and n_{zB} , respectively.

Page 78:: The paragraph beginning from the term “Optically” in line 8 on page 78 refers to the refractive indices of the optically anisotropic member (B4). The object of Preparation Example 8 is to prepare a film of of optically anisotropic member (B4) satisfying $n_{zB} > n_{yB}$ and $n_{xB} > n_{zB}$ (page 77, lines 13 to 14). It is therefore obvious that the terms n_{xA} , n_{yA} and n_{zA} in lines 8 to 9 should be n_{xB} , n_{yB} and n_{zB} , respectively.

Page 81:: The description of page 80, line 24 bridging to page 81, line 7 relates to obtaining a polarizer plate (B'4) by cutting out the optical element obtained by laminating the long sheet of optically anisotropic member (B4) and a long sheet of a polarizer plate HLC2-5618S in accordance with the roll-to-roll process. The clause “in a manner such that the side of the discotic liquid crystal layer of optically anisotropic member (A4) was placed towards the polarizer plate” refers to how the side of the optically anisotropic member is placed towards the polarizer plate. It is obvious that (A4) in line 4 should be (B4). There is no possibility of participation of A4 in this clause.

Page 82:: Preparation Example 9 relates to preparing a film of optically anisotropic member (A5). Therefore, the relations $n_{zB} > n_{yB}$ and $n_{xB} > n_{zB}$ in line 14 on page 82 should be $n_{zA} > n_{yA}$ and $n_{xA} > n_{zA}$, respectively. This is considered to be correct from the description of page 82, line 15 bridging to page 83, line 7, particularly, page 83, lines 4 to 5.

Page 84:: The paragraph beginning from the term “Optically” in line 9 on page 84 refers to the refractive indices of the optically anisotropic member (B5). The object of Preparation

Example 10 is to prepare a film of optically anisotropic member (B5) satisfying $n_{zB} > n_{yB}$ and $n_{xB} > n_{zB}$ (page 83, lines 9 to 10). It is therefore obvious that the terms n_{xA} , n_{yA} and n_{zA} in lines 11 to 12 on page 84 should be n_{xB} , n_{yB} and n_{zB} , respectively.

Page 86:: The paragraph beginning from the term “Optically” in line 9 on page 86 refers to the refractive indices of the optically anisotropic member (B6). The object of Preparation Example 12 is to prepare a film of optically anisotropic member (B6) satisfying $n_{zB} > n_{yB}$ and $n_{xB} > n_{zB}$ (page 85, lines 13 to 14). It is therefore obvious that the terms n_{xA} , n_{yA} and n_{zA} in line 10 on page 86 should be n_{xB} , n_{yB} and n_{zB} , respectively.

Page 91:: The paragraph beginning from the term “Optically” in line 19 on page 91 refers to the refractive indices of the optically anisotropic member (B7). The object of Preparation Example 14 is to prepare a film of optically anisotropic member (B7) satisfying $n_{zB} > n_{yB}$ and $n_{xB} > n_{zB}$ (page 90, lines 24 to 25). It is therefore obvious that the terms n_{xA} , n_{yA} and n_{zA} in line 20 on page 91 should be n_{xB} , n_{yB} and n_{zB} , respectively.

Claim Amendments

The claims are amended to delete multiple dependencies.

No new matter is added by the above amendment. Entry of the above amendment respectfully is requested.

Conclusion

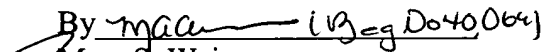
Entry of the above amendments is earnestly solicited. An early and favorable first action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Marc S. Weiner (Reg. No. 32,181) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37.C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.14; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: May 18, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By  (Reg. No. 32,181)

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